TRENDS

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ASSOCIATION
OF AMERICAN
RAILROADS

Office of Information
and Public Affairs
50 F Street, N.W., Washington, DC 20001
(202) 639-2555

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

WASHINGTON, January 26, 1989 -- Carloadings originated on major U.S. railroads during the week ended January 14 totaled 343,799, up 6.0 percent from the comparable week of 1988 and 18.4 percent above the preceding holiday week, the Association of American Railroads (AAR) reported today. The railroads reporting account for approximately 94 percent of all rail carloads.

Carloadings originated were up 7.9 percent in the East and 3.8 percent in the West, compared with a year ago.

From the comparable 1988 week, loadings of metallic ores were up 3,297 cars (25.3 percent), while loadings of coal increased by 10,090 cars (8.7 percent). Grain loadings were down 1,787 cars, (5.3 percent).

Cumulative carloadings for the first 2 weeks of 1989 totaled 634,214, up 1.0 percent from the comparable period a year ago.

Intermodal traffic on Class I railroads -- which is not included in the carloadings -- totaled 109,156 trailers and/or containers for the week ended January 14, up 3.1 percent from the comparable week of 1988.

The cumulative volume of TOFC/COFC traffic for the first 2 weeks of 1989 was 196,158 trailers and/or containers, down 1.7 percent from 1988.

The AAR also estimated that ton-miles carried on major railroads in the week ended January 14 totaled 19.9 billion, 6.4 percent higher than the comparable week of 1988. Cumulative volume for the first 2 weeks of 1989 was an estimated 36.5 billion ton-miles, up 0.8 percent from the comparable period of last year.

(more)

WEEKLY TRAFFIC OF MAJOR RAILROADS
FOR THE WEEK ENDING JANUARY 14, 1989

CARLOADS ORIGINATED, BY COMMODITY GROUP

COMMODITY	WEEK ENDING JANUARY 14, 1989	COMPARISON WITH SAME WEEK OF 1988	CHANGE	COMPARISON WITH PRECEDING WEEK	CHANGE
Grain	31,646	33,433	-5.3 %	25,032	26.4 %
Farm Products, Ex. Grain	2,404	3,881	-38.1	2,202	9.2
Metallic Ores	16,337	13,040	25.3	20,087	-18.7
Coal	126,530	116,440	8.7	104,028	21.6
Crushed Stone, Sand & Gravel	11,863	9,514	24.7	9,749	21.7
Nonmetallic Minerals	10,167	10,226	-.6	8,750	16.2
Grain Mill Products	10,546	10,931	-3.5	9,360	12.7
Food & Kindred Products	9,346	9,803	-4.7	7,818	19.5
Primary Forest Products	9,625	10,419	-7.6	8,669	11.0
Lumber & Wood Products	6,626	6,837	-3.1	5,294	25.2
Pulp, Paper & Allied Products	10,755	10,855	-.9	11,261	-4.5
Chemicals	29,635	26,360	12.4	25,144	17.9
Petroleum Products	5,471	5,003	9.4	4,375	25.1
Stone, Clay & Glass Products	8,977	8,113	10.6	8,081	11.1
Coke	6,026	5,764	4.5	5,693	5.8
Metals & Products	9,937	10,319	-3.7	8,411	18.1
Motor Vehicles & Equipment	21,368	18,286	16.9	14,208	50.4
Waste & Scrap Materials	9,405	8,824	6.6	6,757	39.2
Forwarder & Shipper Assn.	10	16	-37.5	6	66.7
All Other Carloads	7,125	6,185	15.2	5,490	29.8
Total	**343,799**	**324,249**	**6.0 %**	**290,415**	**18.4 %**

SUMMARY: CARLOADS ORIGINATED, INTERMODAL TRAFFIC AND ESTIMATED TON-MILES

TRAFFIC	WEEK ENDING JANUARY 14, 1989 1989	1988	CHANGE	CUMULATIVE: 2 WEEKS ENDING JANUARY 14, 1989 1989	1988	CHANGE
Carloads Originated	**343,799**	**324,249**	**6.0 %**	**634,214**	**627,898**	**1.0 %**
Intermodal Traffic						
Trailers	63,997	65,412	-2.2	116,451	123,800	-5.9
Containers	45,159	40,505	11.5	79,707	75,718	5.3
Total	**109,156**	**105,917**	**3.1**	**196,158**	**199,518**	**-1.7**
Estimated Ton-Miles						
Class I Railroads (Billions)	**19.9**	**18.7**	**6.4 %**	**36.5**	**36.2**	**.8 %**

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